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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/436,973	11/09/1999	MARK E. PENNELL	003824.P003	7363

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EXAMINER
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LUDWIG, MATTHEW J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2004

14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PL4

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 09/436,973	Applicant(s) PENNEL ET AL.	
	Examiner Matthew J. Ludwig	Art Unit 2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,5,7-18,21-23,25-35,37,38,40-42,44-67 and 82-84 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,5,7-18,21-23,25-35,37,38,40-42,44-67 and 82-84 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: RCE and Amendment C filed 3/15/04.
2. Claims 2, 3, 5, 7-18, 21-23, 25-35, 37, 38, 40-42, 44-67, 82, 83, and 84 are pending in the case. Applicant cancelled claims 1, 4, 6, 19, 20, 24, 36, 39, 43, 68-81 in the application.
3. The rejections of claims 2, 3, 5, 7-23, 25-27, 29, 34, 37-39, 44-63, 65-68, 73, 74-81 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaply in view of Light have been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 2, 3, 5, 7-18, 21, 22, 25-27, 29, 34, 35, 37, 38, 44-63, 65-67, and 82-84, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaply, USPN 6,112,215 filed (9/24/98) in view of Light et al., USPN 6,192,380 filed (3/31/98) and in further view of Atlas et al., USPN 6,208,339 filed (6/19/98).**

**In reference to independent claim 2, and 82 Kaply teaches the steps of:**

In the case of a global network such as the Internet, the present invention may be operatively associated with the Internet browser or even from a component of the browser. The method of receiving a request for user data is demonstrated with a program for developing and presenting a menu representative of a set of repetitively needed data entries within a web browser environment. The menu offers the user the opportunity to retrieve user data

Art Unit: 2178

corresponding to the user. The reference further discloses a menu, which is inherently executed by program code, for the user to enter at least a portion of the user data into the electronic form. See column 2, lines 14-18 and column 3, lines 5-10. The Applicant's use of the term ***program code*** (as presently claimed) does not preclude the Examiner from utilizing the program code methods of Kaply to suggest a similar employment of entering content through a menu. The reference does not explicitly disclose the updating of user data with user data from a second location; however, Light teaches a method that scans a form to determine whether there are any spaces that were filled in by the user and not the fill-in unit. The learning subunit then extracts the tags and data associated and passes them to the learning subunit. Light suggests a technique for updating user data with user data from a second location. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kaply and Light before him at the time the invention was made to modify the form filling methods taught by Kaply to include the updating methods of Light, because it would give the system the ability to learn from user input for an enhanced form-filling method.

Kaply teaches a scrollable menu with multiple choices for each field; however Kaply and Light do not explicitly state presenting available multiple entries for each data field on a pull-down list. Atlas discloses a specific field with an indicator that provides a menu with choices for a user to select. The form-fill methods as taught by Atlas provide the user with a similar feature of a drop down next to fields requiring information entry. Atlas further teaches multiple proposed entries for the field presented to the user. See column 4, lines 37-67. The form methods of Atlas provide a reasonable suggestion of providing multiple entries through the utilization of a selectable menu beside each field. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art,

Art Unit: 2178

having the teachings of Kaply and Atlas before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the form fill methods of Kaply to include the multiple entry and menu methods of Atlas, because it would have given the user the added benefit of modifying auto complete programs through the utilization of menus selectable by a pointing device within an interactive user program of data completion.

**In reference to dependent claim 3, Kaply teaches:**

Routines are developed for making the menu displayable, i.e. super imposable over any selected displayed interface screen, to thereby link the menu to the display screen so that the entries may be transferred to fields in the screen or page. See column 6, lines 8-15. Kaply does not explicitly teach program code, which includes a script corresponding to the electronic form. However, Light discloses a form that includes a hypertext markup language tag such as "form", or "input type," indicating that it is a form or that it requires user input. See column 3, lines 1-5. The program code mentioned in Light provides a proficient architecture for the addition of script within electronic forms. Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the form fill-in methods of Kaply and applied the HTML techniques of Light to provide a proficient driven menu for use with electronic forms.

**In reference to dependent claim 5, Kaply teaches:**

The program of the present invention may conveniently be incorporated into a browser program whereby, as pages of Internet are brought up, the database of the present invention may be accessed for the making of repetitive data entries. See column 6, lines 10-20.

**In reference to dependent claim 7, Kaply teaches:**

Kaply discloses requested entries, which are frequent or repetitive entries, known or believed to be in the database of such entries. The menu of the items in the database is brought up, and displayed whereby the page on the screen is linked to the database through the menu, so that items from the menu may be selected and transferred to the page as data entries. See column 6, lines 20-36. The limitations of "obtaining the program code includes retrieving the program code" are met by the program code utilized to access the menu and presenting the user direct access to data entries.

**In reference to dependent claim 8, Light discloses:**

The computer system further comprises a main memory, a dynamic storage device for storing information and instructions to be executed (compare to "the program code is stored on a user computer"). See column 2, lines 27-30. The automatic web based form fill-in methods of Light demonstrate the form recognition techniques necessary for improving recognition in form filling by storing program instructions on a users computer and would have provided Kaply with the added benefit of storing program instructions on a user computer, which would recognize various forms within a network environment. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kaply and Light before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the form fill-in techniques taught by Kaply to include the stored program code of Light, because it would have provided enhanced capabilities of form filling by allowing the user to recognize the specific data for placement into a form.

**In reference to dependent claim 9, Kaply teaches:**

Some typical major elements connected to the Internet are user network connected through server at a node. See column 4, lines 30-36.

Art Unit: 2178

**In reference to dependent claim 10, Kaply teaches:**

The user is being prompted for repetitive information as the computer name, user name and a licensing key. Menu is brought up and appropriate selections are made and entered into fields through to provide the completed initial display screen. See column 5, lines 40-45.

**In reference to dependent claim 11, Kaply teaches:**

The menu of the present invention representative of the items of the database may be superimposed on any interface display screen requiring data entries. See column 5, lines 50-60. The reference discloses the retrieval of data from designated databases; however, Kaply does not explicitly disclose user data being retrieved. Light discloses user data being retrieved from a database by utilizing the matching unit and evaluation unit. (See column 4, lines 1-5. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kaply and Light before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the database techniques taught by Kaply to include the inclusion of user data of Light, because it would have given the user added access methods for an enhance form-filling method.

**In reference to dependent claim 12, Kaply teaches:**

Until required by the computer system, the program instructions may be stored in another readable medium. See column 6, lines 45-55. Kaply does not explicitly disclose user data being retrieved. Light discloses user data being retrieved from a database by utilizing the matching unit and evaluation unit. (See column 4, lines 1-5. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kaply and Light before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the database techniques taught by Kaply to include the inclusion of user data of

Art Unit: 2178

Light, because it would have given the user added access methods for an enhanced form-filling method.

**In reference to dependent claims 13, Kaply teaches:**

In browsing the Internet, accessing particular databases and arranging to be billed for Internet services, it may be seen that much of this information is repetitive and needs to be entered again and again, many times. The limitations “user data includes contact information” and “user data includes credit information” are met by the reference demonstrating the user being billed for Internet services. See column 5, lines 20-26.

**In reference to dependent claims 14 & 22, Light discloses,**

A displayed label associated with the entry blank may be copied. Thus, the text “My credit card number is”, is copied, and the tag “credit card number” is extracted from the text. See column 5, lines 50-60. Light demonstrates data entries within a form that would require the user to input credit information. Kaply discloses data entries, which contain user information within a form, but does not explicitly teach supplying credit information. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kaply and Light before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the data entry methods taught by Kaply, to include the tag extraction techniques of Light, because it would have provided Kaply the added benefit or a tag extraction method related to credit information and a fill-in unit to supply the necessary credit information for an enhanced form filling process within a network environment.

**In reference to dependent claim 15, Kaply teaches:**

The user is being prompted for repetitive information as the computer name, user name and a licensing key. Here again, menu is brought up and appropriate selections are made and



Art Unit: 2178

entered into fields through to provide the completed initial display screen. See column 5, lines 39-45.

**In reference to dependent claim 16, Kaply teaches:**

The user points out and transfers appropriate selected data entries from the menu to appropriate fields. The information transferred from the database into the selected appropriate data entry fields in the display screen by any convention means, e.g. "drag and drop". See column 5, lines 34-38 and column 5, lines 55-60.

**In reference to dependent claim 17, Kaply teaches:**

The database may be continuously updated by the user and customized to the users own needs. Then, a displayable menu is created representative of each database entry. See column 6, lines 1-10.

**In reference to dependent claim 18, Kaply teaches:**

The database may be continuously updated by the user and customized to the users own needs. Then, a displayable menu is created representative of each database entry. See column 6, lines 1-10.

**In reference to dependent claim 21, Kaply teaches:**

The user points out and transfers appropriate selected data entries from the menu to appropriate fields through to produce the completed data entry screen. See column 5, lines 34-40. The reference demonstrates the utilization of multiple entries for each data field on a pull down list. Kaply does not explicitly teach multiple entries for each data field on a pull down list; however, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

Art Unit: 2178

was made to modify the menu-driven list taught by Kaply and utilized multiple entries for any of the fields shown in Figure 4 to give the user several options for a enhanced form-filling method.

**In reference to dependent claim 23**, Light discloses:

The learning subunit scans the form, and determines whether there are any spaces that were filled in by the user, not the fill-in subunit (compare to “*multiple entries for each data field have been previously supplied by the user*”). See column 4, lines 25-30. The reference demonstrates the specific form fields filled in by a user. Kaply teaches replacing repetitive entries with entries from a menu, but does not explicitly teach multiple entries for each data field previously supplied by the user. It would have been obvious to modify the data entry methods of Kaply to include the user-supplied supplied data entries as taught by Light, because it would have offered Kaply the added benefit of learning new data previously supplied or filled in by the user for a proficient form-filling method.

**In reference to dependent claims 25-27**, Kaply teaches:

The user points out and transfers appropriate selected data entries from the menu to appropriate fields. The information transferred from the database into the selected appropriate data entry fields in the display screen by any convention means, e.g. “drag and drop”. See column 5, lines 34-38 and column 5, lines 55-60.

**In reference to dependent claim 29**, Light discloses:

The user is requested to enter further tags associated with the data. Thus, when the user enters his or her first name, in response to a tag asking for a “first name”, the user may add other tags, such as “given name”, etc. See column 4, lines 47-52. The reference demonstrates various user data sets, which correspond to the same user. Kaply teach multiple data entries within a

Art Unit: 2178

form-filling environment, but does not explicitly teach the selection of a user data set from multiple user data sets. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kaply to include the multiple data variations of Light, because it would have provided Kaply with an added benefit of a range of data to choose from when utilizing the form-filling techniques as taught by Light.

**In reference to claims 34, 35,** the limitations of the claims are the system and program code for carrying out the methods of claim 2, 3, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

**In reference to dependent claims 37, 38, 50-52, 58-63, 65-67** the limitations of these claims are the system for carrying out the methods of claims 5-7, 13-19, and are rejected under the same rationale.

**In reference to dependent claims 44-49,** the limitations of the claims recite similar limitations to that of claim 8, 11, 12 and therefore are rejected under similar rational.

**In reference to dependent claims 53-57,** the limitations of the claims recite similar limitations to that of claims 21, 22 & 23 and are therefore rejected under similar rational.

In reference to claims 83 and 84, the limitations of the claims recite similar limitations to those of independent claim 82, and in further view of the following, are rejected under similar rationale.

6. **Claims 28 and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaply, U.S. Patent Number 6,112,215 filed (9/24/98) in view of Light et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,192,380 filed (3/31/98) and in further view of Bogdan U.S. Patent Number 6,249,284 filed(4/1/98).**

**In reference to dependent claim 28, Bogdan discloses:**

A user would enter data in one data entry field at a time while the viewer control automatically moved the cursor to each successive data entry field as each prior data entry field was satisfied. The reference demonstrates the automatic advancement of a cursor within a form-filling environment. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the data entry methods of Kaply and included the technique discloses in Bogdan, because it would have provided the user an efficient way of filling in form fields.

**In reference to dependent claim 64, the claim recites similar limitations to those of dependent claim 28, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.**

7. **Claims 30, 31, 32, 33, and 40-42, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaply, U.S. Patent Number 6,112,215 filed (9/24/98) in view of Light et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,192,380 filed (3/31/98) and in further view of Gupta et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,199,079 filed (3/20/98).**

**In reference to dependent claim 30, 31** Kaply and Light do not teach comparing Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) of a visited site against a set of URLs for which program code is supposed to be available; however, Gupta discloses methods of associating URLs with form identifiers to determine one or more corresponding matching patterns. The reference demonstrates the utilization and comparisons of URLs as a proficient technique in automatic form filling. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kaply to include the URL methods of Gupta, because it

Art Unit: 2178

would have given the user the added benefit of efficiently locating vendor's sites using URL relationships and automatically filling in required forms.

**In reference to dependent claims 32 and 33**, the claims recite similar limitations to those of claim 30, and are therefore rejected under the same rationale.

**In reference to dependent claims 40-42**, the claims recite the system for carrying out the methods of claim 30, and are therefore rejected under the same rationale.

### ***Response to Arguments***

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2, 3, 5, 7-18, 21-23, 25-35, 37, 38, 40-42, 44-81, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew J. Ludwig whose telephone number is 703-305-8043. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 703-308-5186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

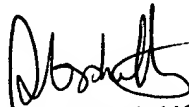
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Art Unit: 2178

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ML

May 26, 2004



STEPHEN S. HONG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER